GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2734
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
BLACKLISTING OF NGOS
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intend to make the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as a user-friendly Ministry;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction;

(c) whether several schemes under his Ministry have no relevance as on date;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to do away with such schemes;

(e) the action taken or being taken by the Government against these NGOs which have been blacklisted; and

(f) the action propose to be taken against he Government officials who were involved in sanctioning the grants to these blacklisted NGOs or overlooked this misutilization of Government funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has been implementing a large number of schemes through NGOs . Toimprove the accessibility and coverage, all the schemes have been extensively reviewed and most of them reformulated. Their scope has been enhanced. The norms and procedures have been simplified. The Ministry is encouraging delivery of servicethrough NGOs in a big way to have increased coverage and reach. To streamline the release of funds, new guidelines have been framed. The Ministry has brought out a Compendium of `Schemes and Programmes` which gives brief information about theprogrammes and detailed information about the NGO based schemes implemented by this Ministry. The Ministry has also set up a Facilitation Centre for dissemination ofinformation. It also a web-site http://www.socialjustice.nic.in which provides useful information about the programmes and activities of the Ministry and grants released to NGOs. The website also provides an interface for receiving complaints and suggestionsto improve the working of the Ministry.

(c)&(d) The Ministry has conveyed its no objection to Planning Commission for transfer of thefollowing schemes from this ministry to other Central Ministries or State Governments as they are in better position to implement them:-

(i) Kasturba Gandhi Swantrata Vidayala Scheme-transferred to D/o Education.

(ii) Employment of the Handicapped-transferred to States.

(iii) National Rehabilitation Programme for the Disabled-transferred to States.

(iv) Beggary Prevention-transferred to States.

(e) If an organization is found as result of inspection or information from other sources to be mis-utilizing, the grant-in-aid assistance released to it or the quality of services delivered by it is not commensurate with funds released, the further release of grant in aid to the NGO is suspended, Show cause notice is issued to the management and if theexplanation is found to be unsatisfactory then action is taken to black list the organization and state Government/district Collector concerned is asked to seize the assets created out of the Government assistance, Dispose of the same, deposit the monies thus collected with the Government and recover the balance amount as arrears of land revenue.

(f) Financial assistance is released to an NGO after assessment of its performance on thebasis of documents submitted by it and the inspection report received from the State Government or members of the designated inspection teams. As a cross check, occasionally the Ministry of social Justice & Empowerment may depute its ownofficers, experts in the field etc. for on the spot inspections and if their reports reveal that the delivery of services by some of these organizations is not commensurate with the funds released, further action is taken. The mismanagement/misutilization of funds that may come to light as a result of inspection is on the part of NGO and therefore, the question of action against Ministry`s officals does not arise.